

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6014

BILL NUMBER: HB 1192

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 19, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Feb 15, 2007

SUBJECT: Notice of Underground Storage Tank Releases.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Ulmer

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to provide notice of a release from, a spill from, or an overfill of an underground storage tank (UST) system to the county health officer of each county in which the release, spill, or overfill occurred. It requires a county health officer that receives notice from IDEM to (1) publish notice of the release, spill, or overfill in a newspaper of general circulation in the county health officer's county; and (2) provide any other notice of the release, spill, or overfill the county health officer considers necessary or appropriate.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The bill requires IDEM to notify local health departments if IDEM becomes aware of a release from an underground storage tank. IDEM should be able to accomplish this task given its existing level of resources.

Background Information: This bill applies to UST systems regulated by IDEM, which include a tank and its related piping and are used to hold petroleum products or other hazardous substances. According to IDEM, as of August 30, 2006, the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program has received 8,461 release reports and closed 5,484 sites (61%) since the program was initiated in 1986. The program has received approximately 210 release reports per year since FY 2001 and closed between 500 and 600 sites in FY 2007. Roughly 500 owners of sites in violation are unable to pay for cleanup.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) The bill provides that a county health officer that receives notice of a release from IDEM must publish notice of the release, spill, or overfill in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and provide any other notice the county health officer considers necessary or appropriate. These provisions will increase expenditures for the county health department; however, it is anticipated that counties will be able to cover any additional costs involved.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: IDEM.

Local Agencies Affected: County health departments.

Information Sources: Bruce Palin, Assistant Commissioner, IDEM.

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